



King's College

TAUNTON

PREP SCHOOL

Head of Science (full-time)

Closing Date: Thursday 17 April 2025





Welcome

Thank you for your interest in the role of
Head of Science at King's College Prep School.

We are looking to appoint a dynamic and forward-thinking Head of Science, who has the eagerness, expertise and vision to lead the Science Department at King's College Prep. We can offer a purposeful, welcoming and collaborative culture as well as spectacular science labs and prep room to work in: Science has a very positive profile.

The successful applicant will have the ability to use their talents to help enrich the quality of science offerings available to pupils both in and out of the classroom, be a role model, and play a full part in the vibrant life of our day and boarding school.

I look forward to hearing from you and considering your application.

Justin Chippendale

JUSTIN CHIPPENDALE
Headmaster



“ In their everyday lives around the school, our pupils show the confidence to succeed, and the determination to give their very best. ”

About the Schools

King's provides continuous day and boarding education for girls and boys aged 2 to 18 years. It comprises King's College Prep School which has approximately 300 children from 2 to 13 and a senior school with approximately 400 pupils from 13 to 18.

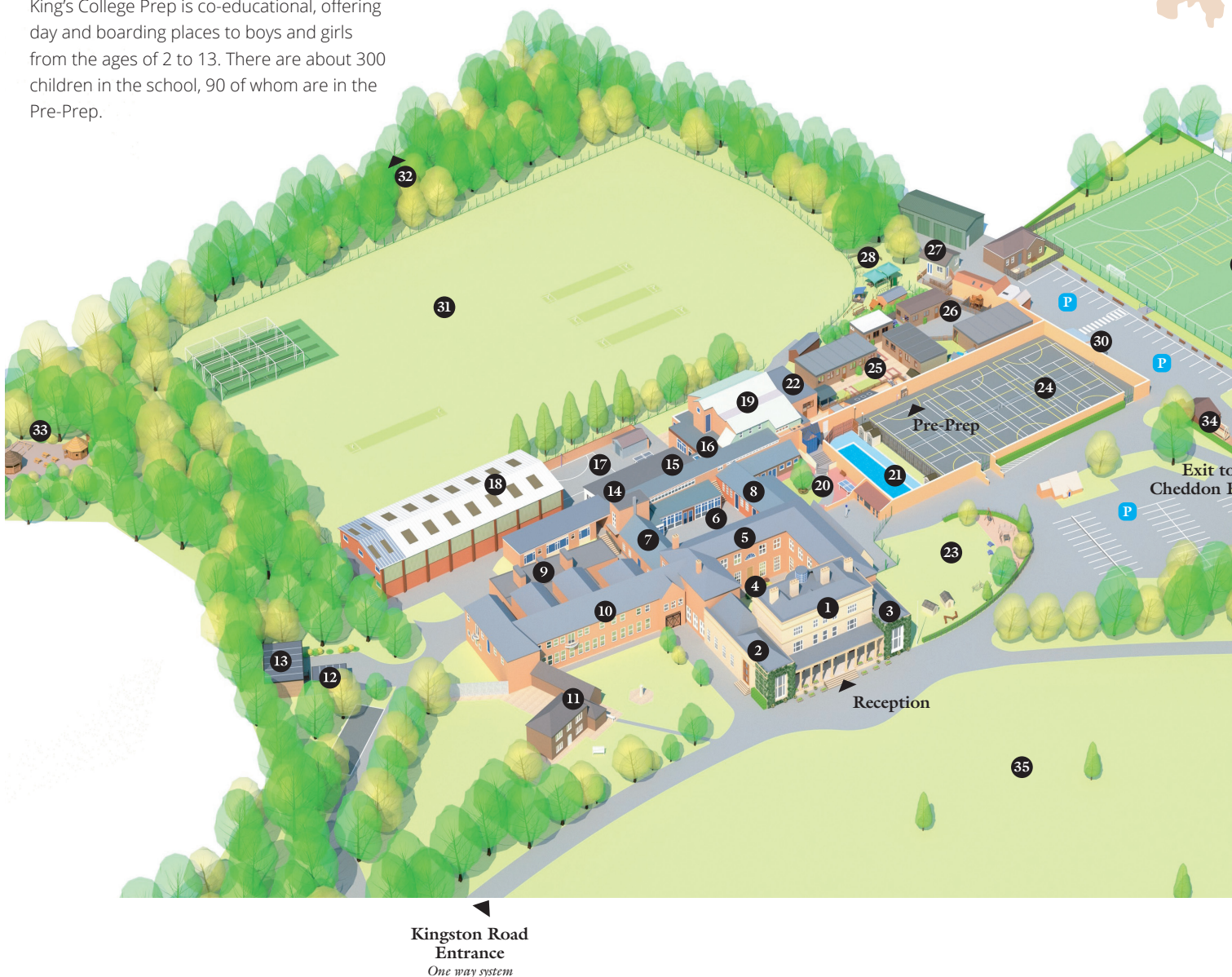
The schools are situated on separate sites in the South West of England and combine traditional values with state-of-the-art facilities. Both schools are run by one governing body, with many functions (marketing, strategy and finance for example) undertaken jointly.

King's College Prep is co-educational, offering day and boarding places to boys and girls from the ages of 2 to 13. There are about 300 children in the school, 90 of whom are in the Pre-Prep.

The school is built around Pyrland Hall, an impressive Georgian country house on the edge of the Quantock Hills. The 50 acre estate (including 15 acres of playing fields) is entirely surrounded by National Trust farmland but is also within a mile of Taunton, the county town of Somerset. Bristol and Exeter are within easy reach while London is

a 1 hour 40 min train journey or three hours via the motorway.

The Pre-Prep's Early Years Foundation Stage consists of a Nursery, which takes children after they have reached their second birthday, and there are then one or two classes in each year from Reception to Year 2.





The Prep department, Years 3 to 8, has two or three classes in each year group. There is continuity of educational provision between Years 1 and 8.

The school is a member of the Woodard Corporation, a group of fifty schools educating boys and girls in the Christian tradition in most parts of the country. It works in harness with King's College, Taunton which is on a separate site about three miles away and most pupils transfer there at the age of 13+.

There is an excellent record of academic, musical, artistic, dramatic and sporting achievements throughout the school. There is a programme of continual development including a new sports hall, a performing arts centre used for concerts and drama productions, new changing areas, computer centres for both the Pre-Prep and Prep, refurbishing the pool and surrounds, a new full size AstroTurf pitch and a Cookery School. The Pre-Prep also had extensive refurbishment and the new Science Faculty has transformed the provision for more than just science.

King's College Prep School

Kingston Road, Taunton TA2 8AA

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|----|----------------------------------|----|---------------------------|
| 1 | Main Building | 18 | Sports Hall |
| | Pemberton Room | 19 | Arts Centre |
| | School Office | 20 | The Rose Garden |
| | Headmaster's Office | 21 | Swimming Pool |
| | Deputy Heads' Offices | 22 | Bunting Room |
| | Boarding House - <i>upstairs</i> | 23 | Adventure Playground |
| 2 | Woodard Room | 24 | Netball and Tennis Courts |
| 3 | Library | 25 | Pre-Prep |
| 4 | Memorial Garden | 26 | Nursery |
| 5 | Dining Room | 27 | Log Cabin |
| 6 | Outer Quad | 28 | Little Woods |
| 7 | ICT Suites | 29 | AstroTurf Pitches |
| 8 | Learning Strategies | 30 | Astro Café |
| 9 | Science Faculty | 31 | North Field |
| 10 | West Wing | 32 | Top Field |
| | Maths | 33 | Big Woods |
| | Geography | 34 | Uniform Shop |
| 11 | Headmaster's House | 35 | Front Field |
| 12 | Cookery School | | |
| 13 | Language Cabin | | |
| 14 | Design Technology | | |
| 15 | Art Room | | |
| 16 | Music Room | | |
| 17 | Hard Play Area | | |

A Rural County of Rolling Hills

Taunton is surrounded by natural beauty, with the Blackdown, Mendip and Quantock Hills on the doorstep, plus Exmoor National Park and the Somerset Levels and Dartmoor a short drive away.

Somerset is renowned for its cheddar cheese and cider. A wealth of apple orchards once made Somerset the cider capital of the UK, whilst the Cheddar Gorge caves are still used to mature cheese today.

Taunton is the county town of Somerset, in the South West of England. It is a busy market town located between junction 25 and 26 on the M5.

A growing commercial and residential centre, Taunton has a splendid small theatre, the County Cricket Ground, a successful rugby club, a delightful museum, the usual shopping outlets and restaurants, and a regular farmers' market.

If you love the great outdoors, you can be on the beach in 40 minutes and the Quantocks are just 15 minutes away. For those who prefer city lights, the fast West Country train service reaches Paddington in under two hours. By car, Exeter is 25 minutes south, Bristol 35 minutes north and you can reach Bath in about an hour.



The Role

Post Head of Science

Reports to The Head

Hours of work Full-time

Remuneration The post holder will be paid pro rata and according to experience. FTE salaries scale starts from c£25,000. Pensionable under the Royal London DC Scheme.
Pro rata reduced fees at King's College Prep and King's College are available for children of staff.

Job function We are seeking to recruit a highly motivated, inspirational and enthusiastic teacher, who is passionate about teaching Science to pupils aged 7-13. An outstanding Scientist who is able to animate and engender a love of the subject. The role will be based at the Prep site where we have two recently built, fully equipped Science labs and a large prep room, as well as extensive grounds for outdoor learning.

The successful candidate will be able both to oversee the day-to-day running of the Science department, as well as strategically plan for the future. We are looking for someone who will add to the vibrant co-curricular life of our busy prep boarding school, and who embraces the holistic nature of working with this hugely rewarding age range.

Main Responsibilities

- The teaching of Science, as suitable, throughout the school.
- Managing staff within the department, including teaching staff and a lab technician.
- Organising departmental staffing allocations and activities.
- Writing schemes of work/syllabuses and maintaining documentation in line with the science curriculum.
- Monitoring planning, teaching and overall standards within the department.
- Overseeing assessment and pupil progress within the department.
- Keeping up-to-date records of pupil progress in line with the school's assessment policy.
- Chairing departmental meetings, as well as contributing to other meetings, such as HoDs and Pupil Progress Meetings.
- Overseeing the departmental budget and managing/ordering departmental resources
- Organising extra-curricular trips to enhance the curriculum.
- Overseeing the health and safety of the department, including relevant policies and risk assessments.
- Liaising with parents regarding pupils' progress, through Parents' Evenings, report writing and other lines of communication.
- Liaising with the Deputy Head Academic, Head of Pre-Prep and SENCO about the needs of the pupils.
- Working closely with the Head of Science at King's College to maximise any combined opportunities as well as ensure the smooth transition of pupils from the Prep to the College.
- Organising and running the school's annual STEM Week.
- Working alongside our admissions team and Assistant Head Co-curricular to run STEM Outreach events.
- Being a pastoral tutor.

All members of staff are required to attend Assembly, Departmental meetings, Parents' evenings, School functions and Staff meetings,

All Prep staff contribute actively to the games and/or hobbies programmes according to their aptitudes and interests and are also included on a weekly duty rota either during the day or in the boarding house. We have a Saturday morning activity programme optional to the children, some sports fixtures on Saturdays, plus our boarders and there is a rota of staff commitments in support of these.

Staff are included pro rata within the weekly supervision duties.

Person Specification

	Essential Criteria	Desirable Criteria
Qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Degree level qualification or suitable substitute• A teaching qualification or proven relevant experience• Outstanding subject knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Could suit someone new to the role of Head of Department, as well as an experienced HoD• Experience of teaching to GCSE• Subject specific training courses
Knowledge and experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Excellent communication and presentation skills (both written and verbal) to engage in private or public with a number of different audiences including parents, children, peers and members of the wider school community• Excellent decision making and problem-solving ability having dealt successfully with a range of challenges• Proficient ICT skills• Ability to work with conflicting demands and timescales	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ability to contribute to the co-curricular programme at King's College Prep.• An ability to offer skills beyond Science may be an advantage.• Experience of using 1:1 devices within the classroom
Personal qualities and abilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Passion for Science and an ability to communicate this to others.• Ability to lead and inspire.• Ability to communicate effectively and build professional relationships with parents and colleagues.• Rigorous can-do attitude, positive team player with a sense of humour and strong sense of collegiality.• Uncompromising but compassionate approach to professional standards.• A high standard of timekeeping and personal presentation	

The qualities and experience outlined in the person specification will be assessed by the following methods:

- King's College Prep application form
 - Interview
 - References from current employer and other chosen professionals
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Appointment Process



Candidates are expected to have read the enclosed appointment policy and agreed to the terms within.

King's has its own pay scale and there are discounts at both King's College Prep and King's College for staff children.

Please apply by completing the appropriate King's application form (we are unable to accept CVs without our application form) and send by email or post to:

Mr Craig Sweet / Mrs Kirsty Eady

c/o HR Department

King's College, Taunton, Somerset TA1 3LA

CSweet@kings-taunton.co.uk / KLEady@kings-taunton.co.uk

01823 328105 / 01823 328231

The closing date for applications is Thursday 17 April 2025

Interviews will be held on Friday 25 April 2025.





King's College

TAUNTON

PREP SCHOOL

Kingston Road, Taunton, Somerset TA2 8AA
01823 285920 | schooloffice@kingshalltaunton.co.uk

www.kings-taunton.co.uk